

18 June 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Press Contacts on ABM-Related Matters

1. Per your instructions, I talk fairly frequently on Vietnamese matters with a reasonably broad spectrum of reporters, columnists and other members of the press. These conversations are all handled through and/or arranged by Mr. Goodwin's office. Again on your instructions, I maintain a continuing social relationship with Mr. Joseph Alsop with whom I talk about matters related to Vietnam.

2. My contacts with the press deal solely with background data, interpretations of Vietnamese Communist thinking, and other non-classified and non-sensitive aspects of the Vietnam problem. I have no professional responsibilities for any matters in any way related to the ABM issue and as a matter of deliberate personal policy keep myself in a state of ignorance on the technical details involved in the current ABM debate. I have not read or seen or discussed any of the national estimates or other recent intelligence papers dealing with this problem. At no time and in no way have I ever talked about ABM-related matters to any member of the press or any other unauthorized person or, for that matter, to any person at all outside the Agency.

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs